

THE BEGINNING OF AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR LYN LIFSHIN

This bibliography was commissioned in late 1973 by Len Fulton and Ellen Ferber for the Small Press Review. Sequences of delays have temporarily postponed their project. Permission has been granted to publish the bibliography first in Wormwood with suitable updating. All numbered items have been in hand and described to the best of my ability.

THE BOOKS:

1. why is the house dissolving? (September 1968) Open Skull Press, 1379 Masonic Ave., San Francisco CA 94117; 17.5 x 21.5 cm., stapled in wrappers (white glossy stock with black offset lettering); unpagged (36 pp.) mimeographed text; edition of 500 copies. \$1. o.p.
 ¶ Photo of the poet in dark glasses on the back cover. Book printed and edited by Brown Miller under the imprint of Doug Blazek; contains 35 poems.
2. Leaves and Night Things (1970) Baby John Press, P.O. Box 2293, West Lafayette IN 47906; 13.3 x 21.0 cm., stapled in wrappers (ocher matte stock with black offset lettering and design); unpagged (24 pp.) offset text; edition of 500 numbered copies. \$1. o.p.
 ¶ Photo of the poet on last page of text. Book printed and edited by James Evans and John P. Miller; contains 21 poems. Inside and outside cover design by Iola J. Mills.
3. Black Apples (1971) The Crossing Press, New/Books, R.D. 3, Trumansburg NY 14886; 15.0 x 23.0 cm., stapled in wrappers (cream matte stock with black offset printing and design); unpagged (44 pp.) offset text; edition unspecified. \$2 (rubber stamped, back cover of advance copies). o.p.
 ¶ Photo of the poet on last page of text. Book edited by John Gill; contains 34 poems. Cover by Larry Paciello. Text drawing by Patrick Lane. ISBN 0-912278-00-5.
4. lady lyn (1971) Hey Lady supplement no. 15, Morgan Press, 1819 North Oakland Ave., Milwaukee WI 53202; 14.9 x 23.8 cm., stapled text resin-glue-attached to wrappers (80 lb. Avon white Kimberly cover stock with black letterpress printing on a circular white overlay, gold banding); unpagged (24 pp.) letterpress text with gold designs (Mellor type, hand-fed Golding no. 7 press, Handschy and VanSon ink); edition of 300 numbered copies. Unpriced. o.p.
 ¶ Photo of the poet (reminiscent of item 2) inside top cover. Text contains 15 poems. Handsome production.
5. Tentacles, Leaves (1972) Pyramid pamphlet no. 1, Hellric Publications, 32 Waverly St., Belmont MA 02178; 13.7 x

21.0 cm., stapled in wrappers (olive-green matte stock with black offset lettering and design); unpaged (16 pp.) offset text; edition unspecified. \$1.25 o.p.

¶ Text edited by Ottone M. Riccio. One eleven-part poem sequence (26 stanzas). ISBN 0-912086-10-6.

6. Poems by Suramm and Lyn Lifshin (1972) Union Literary Committee, 800 Langdon St., Memorial Union, Room 507, Madison WI; 13.9 x 21.6 cm., stapled in wrappers (green-grey matte stock with black offset lettering and design) ii + 26 pp. mimeographed text with pp. 1-24 on golden-rod matte stock; edition unspecified. Unpriced (free?) o.p.

¶ Manuscripts submitted in January 1972. Suramm poems on pp. 1-12 followed by 17 Lifshin poems on pp. 13-24.

7. MOVING BY TOUCH (1972) Cotyledon Press, Rt. 4, Box 276, Traverse City MI 49684; 13.9 x 21.3 cm., stapled in wrappers (grey-green matte outside stock with black offset printing; matte white inside of wrappers); iv + 32 pp. offset text on textured cream stock; edition unspecified. \$1.50 o.p.

¶ Editor was Michael Mayer. Photo of poet on page iii (same as item 2). Text contains 31 poems. Design inside back cover by "CAL."

8. THE MERCUROCHROME SUN POEMS (July 1972) Charas Press, 3026 1/2 South 38th St., Tacoma WA; 15.8 x 20.8 cm., stapled in wrappers (multicolor photo sun-design offset on matte textured stock, yellow lettering); ii + 46 pp. offset black text on brown stock (pp. i-ii, 45-46) and offset sienna text on tan textured stock; edition unspecified. Unpriced.

¶ Editor: Claire Levenhagen. Cover by Dana Shelton with two- or three-color text designs by Lillian Kasjan. Typesetting by Bonfire Press. Contains 25 poems plus the long poem-sequence, "Relics," on pp. 30-43. Photo (reminiscent of item 2) and short bio of the poet on page 44 indicating receipt of Hart Crane Memorial Award (1969) and designation as a Bread Loaf Scholar (1971). Publications list errs in including two books not published when volume issued: Collected Poems and Undressed.

9. MUSEUM (1973) The Conspiracy Press, P.O. Box 7191 State Capitol Station, Albany NY 12224; 13.7 x 21.0 cm., stapled in wrappers (white semi-gloss stock with black offset printing and designs); unpaged (24 pp.) offset text; edition unspecified. \$1.50

¶ Collage-illustrations by Eric Von Schmidt are opposite each left-hand page of text with the text executed in calligraphy by Michael Rutherford. Credits were

omitted from first releases and dry-mounted in the subsequent copies. Contains one eleven-part poem sequence. The collage-illustrations and poems compliment one another effectively. Four illustrations and poems were deleted from the book as originally designed.

10. BLACK APPLES/enlarged second edition (1973) The Crossing Press, R.D. 3, Trumansburg NY 14886; 13.3 x 20.2 cm., perfect bound in wrappers (black photo-portrait design offset on coated stock, white lettering); 64 pp. offset text; edition unspecified. \$2.50

¶ Introduction by John Gill with cover design by David Sykes (adapted from photo in item 3). Expanded text over item 3, adding 13 poems from why is the house dissolving and Leaves and Night Things. Back cover lists short review statement by Victor Contoski, Richard Eberhart, Warren Woessner, Alan Dugan, Carol Rainey, Jon Reilly, Carol Bergé and Dave Etter. ISBN 0-912278-30-7.

11. the old House on the Croton (February 1973) shameless hussy press, Box 424, San Lorenzo CA 94580; 14.0 x 21.6 cm., stapled in wrappers (light orange-red matte stock with black offset lettering over darker orange-grey photo of house); unpagged (28 pp.) offset text; edition unspecified. \$.60 (\$1 to institutions)

¶ Production by Alta. Text consists of one 26-poem sequence carrying title of the book. Dedicated "for mother."

12. 40 DAYS & NIGHTS (1974; although copyright page reads 1972) Hey Lady supplement no. 17, Morgan Press, 1819 North Oakland Ave., Milwaukee WI 53202; 19.8 x 21.7 cm. perfect bound in wrappers (green-grey textured matte stock with grey and black offset number and lettering/design); unpagged (42 pp.) letterpress (Americana) text on 50 lb. grey Kimberly Text paper (watermarked) with pp. 5-6 and 39-40 on green-grey stock; edition of 400 numbered (felt-tip pen) copies. Unpriced

¶ The "apple" of 40 Days, Apple Nights appears on the cover and title only as a drawing. Text contains 31 poems plus three linoleum-cut illustrations on pp. 7 (portrait of poet), 18, and 29. Illustrator is unspecified. A 26-copy leather-bound edition is claimed on the colophon page (p. 41). The originally announced title was I'd Be Jeanne Moreau.

13. OLD HOUSE POEMS (January 1975) Capra Chapbook Series no. 28, Capra Press, 631 State St., Santa Barbara CA 93101; 12.6 x 17.7 cm. (softbound) and 13.0 x 18.3 cm. (hardbound), perfect bound and hard bound in flexible and stiff paper wrappers/boards (cream matte stock with grey-blue lettering over purple photo of poet; back cover a green-grey "fox" design; light purple end

papers); 54 pp. letterpress black text with grey/purple/black title page; unspecified edition of softbound copies with 100 numbered and signed hardbound copies. \$2.50 and \$12

¶ Edited by Robert Durand and Noel Young with ltd. edition copies handbound by Emily Paine. Numbering in brown ink, signature in black ball-point on colophon page (p. 53). Contains two poem sequences: "Harlow House" (15 parts) and "The Old House: Ply-mouth" (35 parts). Beautiful production. ISBN 0-88496-021-8 and 0-99496-022-6.

14. UPSTATE MADONNA POEMS -- 1970-1974 (1975) The Crossing Press, R.D. 3, Trumansburg NY 14886; 14.0 x 21.6 cm., perfect bound in wrappers (white glossy stock completely overprinted in brown-grey with Art Deco title/design incorporating photo of the poet); 128 pp. offset text on watermarked paper; edition unspecified. \$4.95

¶ Edited by John Gill. Cover and title page design by David Sykes. Text divided into four sections: BIOGRAPHY (18 poems), MIDDLEBURY POEMS (7 poems), PEOPLE & PLACES (22 poems) and DRIVING HOME (19 poems). Each section is headed by a stylized illustration by Raymond Larrett. Page 127 carries a short bibliography. This book was advance-listed as Collected Poems and subsequently as Wildflowers, Smoke. Back cover carries quotes from: Bill Knott, Bill Katz and James Naiden. ISBN 0-912278-59-5. Hardbound and limited edition subsequently released.

15. PAPER APPLES (August 29, 1975) The Wormwood Review Press -- the item you now have in hand.

BOOKS ANNOUNCED BUT NOT RECEIVED:

- A. Poems fm. konglomerati press, Richard Mathews, 5719 29th Ave., South Gulfport FL 33707. Edition of 300 copies with illuminations by Silvia Schwintzer. \$.75
- B. Audley End Poems fm. MAG Press, John Kay, 3802 La Jara, Long Beach CA 90805.
- C. Blue Fingers fm. Shelters Press, 1525 W. Mitchell St., Milwaukee WI 53204.
- D. Plymouth Women fm. Morgan Press, Edwin Burton II, 1819 N. Oakland Ave., Milwaukee WI 53202.
- E. Thru Blue Dust, New Mexico, Basilisk Press, David E. Lunde, P.O. Box 71, Fredonia NY 14063.
- F. Shaker House Poems, Omphalos Press, Martin Booth & Hugh Lauder, Knotting, Beds MK44 1AF ENGLAND

SPECIAL ITEMS:

1. First published poem: The Syracuse Review, v. III no. 2 (Winter 1958), Syracuse University, Syracuse NY 13210; 21.5 x 27.9 cm., stapled in wrappers (blue and white matte stock with black letterpress printing and design; Winston "tastes good!" cigarette ad in multi-color on back cover); 32 pp. letterpress text; edition unspecified. \$.35 o.p.
¶ Editor-in-chief: Richard Curtis. Joyce Oates is listed as a member of the "literary staff." One seven-line poem, "Disillusions," by Lyn Lipman appears on page 21.
2. First poem accepted for publication under the name of Lyn Lifshin: Folio, v. II no. 2 (Fall 1966), P.O. Box 31111, Birmingham AL 35222; 17.2 x 21.1 cm., stapled in wrappers (sienna matte stock with purple offset lettering); 48 pp. offset text; edition unspecified. \$1. o.p.
¶ Edited by Adele Sophie de la Barre and Charlotte Kelly Gafford. Two poems, "having gone to the right / boarding school" and "Notes About The Author," appear on page 37. A note on page 47 states: "Lyn Lifshin's biography seems implicit in her poems."
3. First poem in print under the name of Lyn Lifshin: KAURI, no. 16 (September-October 1966), Apt. 4W, 362 East 10th St., New York NY 10009; 21.5 x 27.9 cm., edge-stapled sheets (multicolor pulp stock with black mimeo photo design and printing plus red block-print title); 28 pp. mimeographed text; edition unspecified. \$.75 o.p.
¶ Edited by Will Inman. One poem, "Jonathan," on page 20.
4. First mini-review: The Small Press Review, v. I no. 4 (December 1968), DUSTbooks, P.O. Box 123, El Cerrito CA 94530; 13.7 x 21.6 cm., stapled in wrappers (white glossy stock with black offset printing); 72 pp. offset text; edition unspecified. \$1. o.p.
¶ Review of why is the house dissolving included in an article titled, "Pans, Boffs & a WHAT," by John Oliver Simon on page 23. His recommendation: "buy & read."
5. First maxi-review: Works/ A Quarterly of Writing, v. II no. 1 (Spring 1969) AMS Press Inc., 56 East 13th St., New York NY 10003; 17.6 x 25.4 cm., perfect bound in wrappers (white glossy cover stock with black offset printing and collage design; pink used as a second color); 112 pp. offset text; edition unspecified. \$1.25 o.p.
¶ Review of why is the house dissolving titled, "from Open Skull Press," by John Hopper on pp. 97-101. A quote: "There is an unmistakable -- and un-

disguised--femininity at work here that reminds (one) of Sylvia Plath and yet stands very much on its own gorgeous legs I know nothing of Miss Lifshin's attitude toward making it in the Big Time, but somebody with international distribution has a real obligation to give her a lot of bread and a wider audience. She well deserves it."

6. Workshop edition: Workshop Writing (Summer 1969) 36th University of Colorado Writers' Conference, University of Colorado, Boulder CO 80302; 21.5 x 27.9 cm., plastic ring edge-binding (textured tan cover stock with black offset printing and design; white matte smooth inner cover); ii + 24 pp. offset text; edition unspecified. Unpriced. o.p.

J Presents the work of the three winners (L. Lifshin, Kathryn Quick, and J. C. Lieberman) of University of Colorado Writers' Conference Manuscript Awards for 1969. Judges: James Folsom and Reginald Saner. Editor: John H. Wrenn. Pages 9-16 contain 8 poems. Poem on page 16, "For A Mad Octopus," contains a misprint in line 16 -- this line should read: "having you around all the." Poetry workshop leaders that year were: Alan Dugan and Richard Eberhart.

7. First magazine special section: Abraxas no. 3 (June 1970), Abraxas Press, 1811 Oshkosh Ave., Oshkosh WI 54901; 17.2 x 21.4 cm., stapled in wrappers (yellow matte stock with black offset printing and design); unpagged (24 pp.) offset text on tan pulp mimeo stock; edition unspecified. \$1. o.p.

J Edited by James Bertolino. Designated as the "two women poets" issue and containing the work of Besmilr Brigham and L. Lifshin (10 poems on pp. 13-22).

8. First major anthology inclusion: New American and Canadian Poetry (October 28, 1971) BP:403, Beacon Press, 25 Beacon St., Boston MA 02108; 13.6 x 20.2 cm., perfect bound in wrappers (coated stock with design and title in green, red and white); xl + 280 pp. offset text on eggshell-white stock; edition unspecified. \$3.95

J Edited by John Gill. Photo of poet on page xxvii, 10 poems on pp. 148-157 and a short biography on p. 270. Glue discoloration of spine routinely seen in advance review copies released September 2, 1971. ISBN 0-8070-6409-2. Hardback edition issued later: ISBN 0-8070-6408-4.

9. Magazine special section: Charas, v. II no. 1 (January 1972), 3026 1/2 South 38th St., Tacoma WA; 16.5 x 20.8 cm., stapled in wrappers (matte tan textured stock with

black offset lettering and design; yellow tissue inner wrappers); 64 pp. offset text on tan stock; edition of 250 copies. Unpriced. o.p.

¶ Collection of the work of Colette Inez, Anita Helle, Dorothy Dalton, Lyn Lifshin, and Ellen Tiftt as edited by Claire Levenhagen. Cover design and art work (including magic-marker portraits) by Gretchen Acree. Lifshin section contains a short biography and 10 poems (pp. 34-46).

10. Magazine special section: Pyramid no. 12 (1972), Hellric Publications, 32 Waverly St., Belmont MA 02178; 13.7 x 21.5 cm., stapled in wrappers (grey matte stock with black offset printing and design); 80 pp. (including covers) with offset text; edition unspecified. \$1.50 o.p.

¶ Edited by Ottone M. Riccio. Special section on pp. 24-34 contains 11 poems. Page 78 advertises the release of Tentacles, Leaves.

11. Magazine center-section detachable booklet: The Wormwood Review, v. 12 no. 3 issue 47 (August 26, 1972), Wormwood Review Press, P.O. Box 8840, Stockton CA 95204; 13.7 x 21.3 cm., stapled in wrappers (bright green matte cover stock with black offset lettering and cover art by Virgil Finlay; title on back cover as the worm would view you: 47); 40 pp. (69-108) offset text with booklet on goldenrod stock (pp. 83-94); edition of 700 numbered copies including 32 signed copies (back cover) by L. Lifshin. \$1.50

¶ Booklet titled: FINGER PRINT and contains 20 poems. Edited by and with cover design by Marvin Malone. Page 94 contains first bibliographic checklist for Lyn Lifshin (5 items).

12. Special magazine issue: Zahir xtra no. 6 (1972), Zahir Press, English Department, Hamilton-Smith Hall, Durham NH 03824; 21.6 x 27.9 cm., edge-stapled sheets (white ditto stock with purple ditto printing and design), 22 pp. (including cover) ditto printed text on only right side of page; edition unspecified. Unpriced.

¶ Editing and typography by Diane Kruckow with the cover and text drawings by Richard Latta. Contains 18 poems.

13. Special mass-handout issues: Out of Sight nos. 4, 17, 19, 26 (n.d.), Out of Sight Library, Box 8006, Wichita KS 67208; 21.6 x 27.8 cm., nonstapled folded sheets; no. 4 (1 yellow sheet with green ditto text and 1 green sheet with purple ditto text -- 7 poems); no. 17, Lyn Lifshin Apple Issue (2 white sheets with dark grey ditto text -- 8-poem sequence, "Moving by Touch"); no. 19 (3 white sheets with green ditto text -- 12 poems with 9 reprinted from other mags); no. 26 (2 white sheets with

green ditto text -- 8 poems with 7 reprinted from other mags); editions unspecified (limited by ditto process to less than 120 clear copies). Free circulation. o.p.

¶ Fugitive publication edited by James Mechem.

Copies are quite rare.

14. First broadside: Yellow Butterfly Poetry Broadside no. 1 (November 1973) The Yellow Butterfly Press, Laurence and Guadalupe Fallis, Las Cruces NM 88001; 21.5 x 28.0 cm., one sheet golden yellow matte heavy paper; black offset text on both sides; edition unspecified. Un-priced.

¶ Contains 3 poems -- nos. 42, 72 and 88 of the sequence titled "Thru Blue Dust, New Mexico."

Note: Two anthology inclusions predate item 8, but have not been seen here. Nevertheless they should be noted down: Remember Our Fire (Noh Directions, 1969) and Mad Windows (The Lit Press, 1969). A recording titled "after it all happens again" is long overdue from Folkways. By 1973, she had published in (at least) 162 different mags, although Poetry (Chicago) was not on that list.

-- Marvin Malone

First appearance in Wormwood (August 24, 1973), one of three poems in issue no. 25.

THE BARGAIN

She all the time rationalizing,
nagging about how if
they couldn't afford to
it was one thing
but not being tied
down, no children yet
nor family to think of
and rent being free
and their food too,
others had,
it really couldn't be
much to pay for
bliss and all
that went along with it.
He, knowing her
womanly calculations
plainly wrong, but
her eyes pleading so
and the day very hot,
went along with her and
ate the bitter apple.